

The Joseph Wright House
Taylor's Lane
(Cinnaminson Township), Riverton vicinity
Burlington County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, F.A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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The Joseph Wright House
Taylor's Lane
Cinnaminson Township
Burlington County, New Jersey

Owners: Beulah and Susanna Parry, 809 Main Street,
Riverton, New Jersey

Occupants: Tenants

Dates of Erection: Stone wall section 1771 (see
remaining figures 71 worked in west gable
end); brick section 1786-1800

Builders: Joseph Wright 1771, original owner, and
Joshua W. Haines 1804, his brother-in-law
next owner

Present Condition: Original

Number of Stories: Two and one-half, over cellar

Materials of Construction:

Foundation - stone masonry

Exterior walls - front of southern half is
coursed ashlar stone masonry, side walls
of same are rubble stonework; northern
half in brickwork

Interior walls - stone masonry partywall,
frame partitions, all plastered

Chimneys - brick, built inside of end walls

Roof - gable, modern composition shingle
roofing

Porch - modern

Historical Data:

The identification of this remarkable two-
part farmhouse by discovery of the names of its
original and succeeding owners, as above stated, is
the result of a search of the title as recorded in the
County archives reported as follows.

Joshua Wright of Chester, Burlington County, in his will dated 22 March 1750 and proved 20 July 1751, devised his real estate thus: (quote) It is my will that when my son Joshua arrives at the age of twenty-one years, that my plantation be divided as followeth:

That my son Joseph Wright shall have all my lands on the northeast side of the said division line on the said plantation, including the plantation where Leeds lives and the saw-mill and pond and utensils thereunto belonging, with the orchards, marshes, meadows, buildings and appurtenances after he arrives at the age of twenty-one years.

Joseph Wright, son and devisee abovenamed, built in 1771 the stone masonry first unit of the house here surveyed on the part of the paternal acreage so received. He died intestate in 1786 and the property passed to his sister Mary, wife of Joseph Haines, as one of the co-heirs at law.

This Mary Haines, of Springfield Township, same county, at the date of her will, 27 September 1800, which testament was proved 16 December 1803, devised to her son Joshua W. Haines "All my plantation and lands adjoining, in the Township of Chester, in the County of Burlington, together with all the Buildings and improvements, that fell to me by being one of the co-heirs of my brother Joseph Wright's estate." In his will dated 14 April 1808 and proved 6 December 1811, Joseph Haines of Springfield Township confirmed the bequests made in the will of his late wife Mary Haines and devised his right in her real estate accordingly.

Joshua W. Haines, the son and devisee, naively erected the northern addition in brick, so that the cubage of the original stone house became doubled, with the resulting curious effect in the end walls. Evidently he had occupied the farm since the death of his maternal uncle, Joseph Wright, in 1786. In his will dated 22 January 1846, he devised to his son Charles "the part of my farm that I now live on, with all the buildings and improvements, bounded as the draught of survey directs, the side next to Edward Taylor's line," in Chester Township.

Charles Haines of Cinnaminson Township(a) devised all his estate to his wife Beulah and daughters Susanna W. and Elizabeth C. Haines equally, by his will dated 30 June 1879 and proved 11 October 1881, and died 16 September 1881. His wife had died 15 September 1879.

Subsequently, by deed of 26 April 1923, the two surviving devisees, Elizabeth Haines Parry and her husband and Susanna Haines, widow of Joseph L. Haines, both of the nearby borough of Riverton, conveyed to Susanna H. and Beulah H. Parry, of same place, the major part of the farm, in two adjacent tracts of 190 and 88 acres. The description of the second tract (on which this house is located) shows it bounded southeast by Taylor's Lane, northwest by Swedes Run, southwest by Delaware River and northeast by the Camden and Amboy Railroad Company. The first tract is likewise described as extending northeast from the railroad some 7400 feet along the northwest side of Taylor's Lane to the State Highway, Camden-Burlington.

These two women, residing in Riverton, remained as owners of the ancestral farm at the time of our survey measurements of the house.

Reference:

Search of title by William Brown, H.A.B.S.
research editor, reported 10 February 1941

Lewis D. Cook
Supervising Historian 30 June 1941

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.
District Officer